

AN OPERATIVE JOURNAL, CONDUCTED BY WORKMEN.

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CHICAGO, APRIL, 1884.

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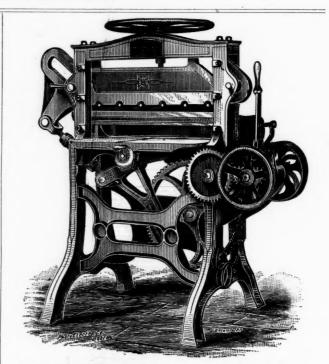
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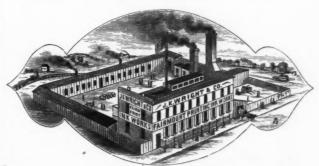
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THE INLAND PRINTER.

VOLUME I.

CHICAGO, APRIL, 1884.

NUMBER 7.

COMPARATIVE WEIGHTS OF STANDARD PAPERS.

BY JOHN C. WARD.

THAT papers of standard qualities and sizes have not been made a careful study by manufacturing printers and lithographers, is a deplorable fact which cannot be disputed. Paper is the principal and most expensive article used, and is suffered to be so from the want of a thorough knowledge of its relative qualities and comparative weights. The common sizes of book and flat writing papers are familiar to those who handle them; but when a form is to be enlarged or reduced, and the same thickness of paper is to be retained, it becomes a question of dollars and cents; invariably so, from the fact that, at this age of printing, a job is not placed in the hands of the printer until a price has been fixed upon the same.

The procedure in the selection of paper for a form which is to be enlarged or reduced is somewhat in this wise: A letter is sent to the paper-dealer for a certain kind of paper, which is simply a matter of presumption as to whether the paper required will be of the same thickness and quality as your sample sheet. If your office is in the country, the delays and vexations need not be recited. The better way to become proficient in handling paper is to familiarize yourself with all the sizes of standard papers, and be able to recall them at a single thought; to know the various grades carried in each particular size, whether laid or wove, and in what colors; whether unsized, sized, uncalendered, and sized and super-calendered. weights per ream of each size is the next step to be taken, the flat papers increasing in weight by two pounds in light papers and four pounds in heavy papers. The book qualities increase in weight by five pounds in light and ten pounds in heavy papers.

The comparative weights per ream, or the relation of a given size and weight to all standard sizes and weights, form the principal feature. It is true scales are made for weighing a single sheet of paper to determine the weight of a ream, but there is such a variation on the whole, that absolute accuracy cannot be obtained. The correct method is only to be found by proportion. To simplify the corresponding papers in different sizes, take the "Tables of Comparative Weights of Standard Papers," which are published in book form, and mark the corresponding weights on a few sample sheets of flat and book papers of graduated thicknesses and place them in your memorandum book, which will dispense with a vast amount of folded sample sheets usually found on your desk. To illustrate: Select a sheet of fourteen-pound cap and let it form a leaf in your book. Mark it 14×17-14; then follow with $15 \times 19 - 17$; $16 \times 21 - 20$; $17 \times 22 - 22$; $18 \times 23 - 24$; 25 × 38-56, and so on, proceeding with the next thickness of paper in the same manner. By this means you can obtain from your paper-dealer the exact paper required, if in the market. Much has been said on the subject of paper, but the practical and experimental portions have been omitted.

Another important test must be made, that is, familiarizing yourself with the weights by the sense of touch. Take several thicknesses and qualities and mark the weight on each and turn the marked side down. By constantly interchanging them you will soon be able to detect the weight of each. Papers of high calender and those unsized must be carefully observed, as the finer the finish the lighter it seems, while in reality it is heavy.

The subject of paper has not been treated as information to experts, but as a simple explanation to those who desire to acquire an easy method for handling papers. Too many embark in the printing business without a thought in regard to this matter, the details of the trade occupying most of their attention. To readily select paper in the market is as essential to the printing business as it is for the merchant to judge the quality of silks or sugar, the one being as staple as the other.

REFORMS IN THE COMPOSING-ROOM.

BY ED. KELLY.

THE many and wonderful improvements which have lately been introduced to the pressroom have astonished even the pressmen themselves; and were the letterpress printer of bygone days to again visit the scene of his former efforts, he would find himself in a quandary. How different is it in the composing department! The typo of fifty years ago might return to his frame and manipulate the type as he did in days of yore. The only improvements we can boast of, some of which are far from perfect, are the type-setting and distributing machines, graduated rule case, mitering and curving machines, iron frames, wedge quoins, and a combination type case, which, when put to the test, will disappoint many of its supporters. Type, certainly, has been improved, but the credit of that is due to the founders, and has added but little to the speed and comfort of the workman.

Last month's Inland Printer contained a letter by Mr. Jones which was suggestive of a step in the right direction toward the reformation of the case, but in his arrangement - like that of many others - he omits what undoubtedly is a very important item, viz., to place the space-boxes in a cluster. Why should the spaces be at such a distance from each other? Most of our cunning news-hands adopt the plan of forcing a piece of brass rule into the space-box in order to obtain a convenient corner for thin spaces. The upper case appears to be unworthy of notice, but why, it is difficult to understand. Surely some definite arrangement will one day be brought to light regarding it. Every office in all parts of the world has its own peculiar lay; for instance, in Scotland the smallcaps occupy the two top rows, and to the diminutive compositor are suggestive of forbidden fruit. offices have the capitals to the right, others to the left; a

few begin the alphabet on the bottom row, but the most convenient arrangement is that where the capitals begin on the fifth row from the top, on the right side of the case, the letters X, Y, Z, T, U being placed over A, B, C, D, E. Then the fractions, signs, accents, etc., meander ad libitum all over the ordinary cap case, although we all know that most offices provide separate cases for these sorts. The remedy which suggests itself to prevent confusion in the distribution or laying of a case is that each box bears a prominent and indelible impress of the type which it is meant to contain; this plan is specially applicable to the Greek and Hebrew cases. Again, the boxes of the lower case may be considerably improved by being concaved and perforated in the bottom. A concaved box would prevent packing and enable the workman to pick up the last type in the box with the same facility as the first. The benefit of perforation can be easily understood; it would prove an outlet for the poisonous matter so injurious to the health of the compositor. A copy-guide and lead-rack are necessary appendages to the cap case of the future. before any of these improvements could be carried out, it will be necessary to build the cases of some other material than that now in vogue. Galvanized tin, or a combination of wood and tin, would probably serve the purpose. The printers' carpenters have signally failed to improve on their productions of fifty years ago, and for this reason we must look in another direction for reforms in the composing-room. The antiquated, vermin-breeding, rickety wooden cases, racks, frames and galleys are no longer popular, and ought to be at once deposited in a museum as relics of printing in the seventeenth century.

An improvement in the narrow brass galleys might be made. Under the existing system, sidestick and quoins are necessary before matter can be proved, and in searching for these articles considerable time is lost. It is within the range of possibility to have these manufactured with a sliding outer side. The Gordon chase is another article where telescopic sides might be applied; for example, place four movable pieces inside the chase and connect with a lever or thumbscrew; this arrangement would lessen the trouble and annoyance which is coincident with the locking up of a single word in a chase capable of holding a demy quarto page.

A galley-holder is also required,—not a rack, but simply a neat little piece of metal capable of supporting a galley with matter. This stand to be fixed to the frame at which the compositor is employed, so that he would be enabled to empty a stick or lift a handful without moving from the space-box. If this stand were to work on a pivot, it would also be adaptable for correcting or overrunning matter.

In correcting a form on the press or stone, it often occurs that the ordinary gas-jet does not give sufficient light to allow the compositor to perform his work satisfactorily. This difficulty would be obviated by the use of a simple and inexpensive contrivance known as the candlestick light. It is a small brass stand with a gas burner and rubber tube attached. One end of the tube is pressed over the gas-pipe burner, and by this means the gas is con-

veyed to the candlestick, which may be moved from page to page as the corrections necessitate.

The above suggestions were prompted by experience of the defects in various offices throughout the world, and the severest comments of the readers of this journal are respectfully requested.

To the Messrs. Hoe & Co., of New York, the printers in America owe a debt of gratitude for the unexcelled additions they have made to the printing business, and it is hoped they will continue improving—keeping the health of the workmen in view—until such time as they transform the composing-room into a suitable place for human beings to work in.

A SHREWD FOREMAN.

FROM A PHILADELPHIA CORRESPONDENT.

DRINTERS, as a rule, are a shrewd and secretive class of people, as the following incident will show: A foreman in one of our large printing-offices a few years ago received an order for two thousand half-letter circulars, the person leaving the order stating that Mr. Smith had sent it, who in turn had received it from Mr. Jones, and that Mr. Brown would pay the bill. The foreman, knowing the parties referred to, received it as a bona fide order, and as there were no further instructions the job was duly executed and placed in stamped envelopes, which had been already directed. In due course of time the person who had given the order came, paid his bill and departed. The foreman, cursorily glancing over a copy left, to his surprise found that it contained a gross libel; but the discovery came too late, as the work had been delivered, and so the matter was allowed to drop. The next morning, on looking over the "Personals" in one of the city papers, his eye fell on this notice: "\$500 reward will be paid for the arrest and conviction of the parties who issued the following circular." Here followed the libelous article. While somewhat agitated by the announcement, he determined to ascertain, in a quiet way, if any of the men knew of the affair. As investigation convinced him they did not, he patiently awaited developments. He had scarcely sat down to his lunch, paper in hand, when a well dressed individual entered, and in a familiar way gave an order for two hundred additional copies of the objectionable circular, accompanied by the statement that having done the work before he thought it would be executed cheaper than elsewhere, as he supposed the form was still standing.

The foreman, though somewhat puzzled, was equal to the emergency, and with a glance at the circular and a smile at the gentleman, remarked that the visitor had doubtless got into the wrong office, as he had no form of that description in the place. (The form having been distributed.) "But," said the detective,—for that was what the stranger proved to be—"I was told to come here by the party who gave the first order, and thereby save unnecessary expense." "Well, to show you that you have made a mistake," continued the interviewed, "here is our index card of specimens of type, and you will see you have two lines in that circular that are not on the card, and as to the saving, that would be insignificant; however, if you will leave the order we will do the best we can, and it is

questionable if any but a printer will know the difference."
"No, no," replied the detective, "that will not do. The same party who did the first job must do this, as it must be a facsimile." "Well, I am sorry we cannot accommodate you," was the shrewd response. "And so am I," thundered the detective, as he left the establishment in disgust, much to the relief of the foreman.

FORMS FOR ELECTROTYPING.

LECTROTYPERS frequently experience considerable ELECTROTYPERS requestry cape. locked up properly. It also often happens that in placing the bearers round them a fallen letter or protruding lead will disarrange the entire job, and this disarrangement is, of course, increased as the form is tightened. In the course of an article on this topic, the Electrotyper, among other pertinent advice on the important and somewhat neglected subject of preparing forms for electrotyping, says: "The forms for the electrotyper should always be locked up more tightly than when to be used on the press, for the reason that the adhesiveness of the wax mould is more likely to draw letters than the suction of rollers. All forms for electrotyping should also be well planed down after the final locking up, particular care being taken to exclude all extraneous substances so as to secure perfect flatness. A proof of every form should be taken after the last lock-up, and this proof closely scrutinized, to see if anything has been deranged or misplaced. A clean final proof should be sent to the foundry with the form, so as to give the electrotyper an opportunity to examine it and place him in a position to repair any damage that may possibly happen to the form while it is in his hands."

THE LUXOTYPE PROCESS.

THE last issue of *The Printer*, published in London, L England, contains a remarkably fine portrait of Mr. Gladstone and his grandson, obtained by what is known as the Luxotype process, which doubtless marks the commencement of a new era in illustrating books and periodicals. It is the result of the labors of Messrs. Brown, Barnes & Bell, after many years of anxious thought and study. The Printer says: "The block we have used is produced without the aid of draughtsman or engraver; it is the direct result of photography and a clever use of chemicals. The process is yet in its infancy, but in the hands of such gentlemen as Messrs. Brown & Co. it is impossible to say to what extent it may not be used. It has already been used by several daily papers, and has given great satisfaction, the fidelity of the work being equal to that of photography. The invention is one of great merit, and we feel sure that printers will not be slow to avail themselves of a process at once cheap and valuable for the purposes of illustration. We hope shortly to lay before our readers further specimens of the work accomplished by the luxotype process, and we believe the verdict of competent men will be, that for accuracy, delicacy and beauty of appearance it far surpasses the work of draughtsmen and engravers."

HOW TO MAKE PRINTERS' ROLLERS.

THE old formula of one pound of glue and one quart of molasses is the best. A first quality glue only should be used. Put the glue to soak over night, letting it take up all the water it can, until each and every piece is soft; then drain it thoroughly, after which place it in a kettle constructed upon the same principle as a regular glue kettle—the outer shell filled with water, the inner one the composition. Boil (we do not mean simmer) the glue until it is all melted, leaving no hard pieces, then add the molasses (the old-fashioned New Orleans molasses is the best) and stir constantly for about three-quarters of an hour.

It is important that the roller-mould should be well and thoroughly oiled, so that the roller, when cast, can be removed, which must be done steadily and without haste, else the face of the roller will be marred. Do not attempt to remove the roller from the mould in less than twenty-four hours. In warm weather use more glue in proportion to the molasses; in cold weather, vice versa. A roller made in this manner will last longer and do better work than any of the alleged patent compositions.

The roller being cast and successfully removed from the mould, should not be used for several days, until it is thoroughly surfaced.

To keep it always in good condition it should not be cleaned either with kerosene or benzine, as they burn out the molasses, leaving an unyielding mass of glue, full of cracks and perfectly useless. Wash the roller in oil, wipe off with a rag, and you will have a roller that is always reliable.

THE LENGTHS OF LINES OF TYPE.

A PROMINENT medical man of France has published an article in which he unequivocally condemns the lines of type in books and newspapers, arguing that their present length - being too long - is unfavorable to the eyes and nerves of readers. He maintains that the eyes cannot, as of right they should, take in all the words of each line in the range of one focus. This doctor insists that the line of type ought not to extend much over two inches, that being the normal range of the eye when it is stationary. In regard to the shape and size of the letters, the same authority declares that the smaller the type the harder the strain on the eyes. An example is given in the miniature edition of Dante, shown in the last French exhibition, which ruined the eyesight of three printers and two proofreaders. Concerning the shapes of letters, the tall, thin Roman letters, technically known in France as poetic type, are the most trying on the eyes. Short heads and tails are to be preferred, because the eyes run more easily over them, and there is less liability of confusing one line with another. Like the German oculists, the French doctor maintains that the shortsightedness so prevalent in Germany is due entirely to the use of Gothic type.—Pacific Printer.

OIL STAINS ON PAPER.—To remove oil-stains from the pages of a book without destroying the printing, gently warm the stained parts with a hot flatiron (so as to take out as much of the oil as possible) on blotting-paper, then dip a brush into rectified spirits of turpentine and draw it gently over the sides of the paper, which must be kept warm during the whole process. Repeat the operation as many times as the thickness of the paper may require. When the oil is entirely removed, to restore the paper to its usual whiteness, dip another brush in highly-rectified spirits of wine and draw it in like manner over the stained place, particularly round the edges. By adopting this plan the spots will entirely vanish and the paper assume its ordinary whiteness.

THE INLAND PRINTER,

AN OPERATIVE JOURNAL, CONDUCTED BY WORKMEN.

Published Monthly by

THE INLAND PRINTER COMPANY,

2 TAYLOR BUILDING, MONROE ST., CHICAGO.

JOS. PEAKE, SECRETARY-TREASURER AND BUSINESS MANAGER.

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The Inland Printer will be issued promptly on the first of each month. Subscriptions, payable in advance, may be sent to the Secretary by postoffice order or in currency at our risk.

The Inland Printer will spare no endeavor to furnish valuable news and information to those interested professionally or incidentally in the printing profession, and printers throughout the West will confer a great favor on the Editor of this Journal by sending him news pertaining to the craft in their section of the country, particularly individual theories and experiences of practical value.

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St. Louis, Mo.: W. H. Bowman, 2807 Madison street.

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BOSTON, MASS.: Silas L. Morse, 117 Franklin street.

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Applications for agencies will be received from responsible working printers in every town and city in the United States and Canadas.

CHICAGO, APRIL, 1884.

A LIBEL NAILED.

TATE Senator Miller, of Cape May county, New Jersey, has got himself into hot water by his advocacy of a resolution for the appointment of a committee to examine and report upon the feasibility of having the public printing of that state done by convicts in the penitentiary. In doing so he went out of his way to insinuate that there would always be plenty of printer convicts to perform the work. Trenton Typographical Union determined to resent the insult, and as the falsity of the statements made was proven by the official records of the New Jersey state prison, which showed that there have not been five printers confined in it in five years, that body passed a series of resolutions denouncing the unjust and unmanly aspersion and its author, and declaring him an enemy of the printers' craft and workingmen in general. Mr. Miller is evidently an ignoramus of the first water, with whom truth is of secondary importance.

AN ERA OF FRAUD.

HE number of new corporations—printing and publishing companies contributing their full quota — which are springing up in this state is perfectly marvelous. The reckless manner in which twenty-five thousand to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars are slung around - metaphorically speaking — must astonish the natives. Pseudoinventors, broken-down tricksters and impecunious adventurers, to whom a fifty-dollar bill would be a bonanza, have the cheek to send to Springfield for a charter incorporating this or that company with an authorized capital equal to a prince's ransom - on paper, at least. But why protest, as this fact is accepted as prima-facie evidence of returning business prosperity; and when the authorized capital stock is computed at the end of the year Illinois will be many millions of dollars richer than she was last January? That's the rosy way to look at it. The proper way, however, is to regard them as the outgrowth of an era of speculative craze, and to estimate most of them at least at their true value — as the schemes of confidence adventurers. But if gudgeons will bite, gudgeons must suffer.

CONSUMPTION AMONG COMPOSITORS.

THE London Society of Compositors have called the attention of the trade to the excessive mortality prevailing among the members of their craft, which possesses a special interest to the American printer, because the principal causes of this mortality exist as much on this side as on the other side of the Atlantic. In THE PRINTER, statistics are given concerning funeral allowances, which for 1883 amounted to seventy-four. Of this number twenty-two compositors died from consumption and thirteen from bronchitis, etc., giving a total of thirty-five deaths, or marly fifty per cent, due to diseases of the respiratory organs. The position in which the compositor is required to stand, the irregularity of the hours of labor, the insufficient ventilation of the workrooms, and the general want of cleanliness, are acknowledged to be the chief factors of evil. The first two grievances, we are afraid, will continue to contribute their quota to the death list, though in job offices at least the overtime system, to which we took exception in our last issue, could be practically abolished. While there has recently been a great improvement in the construction of our composing-rooms, compared to the dilapidated rookeries of a few years ago, from which light and ventilation were carefully excluded and access to which was only accomplished at risk of life or limb, there is still room for great improvement, in the matter of ventilation at least. The violent and dangerous change of atmosphere admitted by the opening of doors or windows is not ventilation; and it is difficult to determine which is the most fruitful source of disease, inhaling week after week a polluted atmosphere, or being constantly subjected to a chilling and sudden draft. As to the last cause, truth compels the admission that the men have nobody but themselves to blame. A correspondent, writing on this subject, says: "I could point to composing-rooms that have not been thoroughly swept for years, the corners and out-of-the-way places of which are receptacles for old boots and other inodorous refuse, but, to a great extent, also, they are attributable to our own irregularities when in health. It was impressed on me by a physician whom I consulted for an attack of colic many years ago, 'Never eat food in the office without previously washing the hands, for, no matter how careful you may be, it is next to impossible to prevent the type-dirt getting into

the system.' A hurried stand-up meal is frequently taken in offices where men nearly always work at high pressure, and I have often seen compositors drop their sticks for a minute and hurriedly take a mouthful, and while masticating this resume work, and so on till the food was finished." Cleanliness is next to godliness, and we believe a practical recognition of this fact, with a judicious daily indulgence in physical exercise, will materially diminish the mortality list. We believe also that the establishment of a gymnasium, with bathrooms attached, by the larger typographical unions, would prove a paying investment in more than one sense, and be the means of removing many of the nervous diseases now caused by high pressure, work and foul atmosphere.

THE NEED OF A BANKRUPTCY LAW.

BUSINESS assignments in the printing trade in Chicago have for the past year been so much more than ordinarily frequent, and that in an era of good trade, that one may well pause to inquire the wherefore. That a serious percentage of these have been fraudulent is too apparent to be doubted; indeed, it is well understood to be so among the craft, and it would appear that the time had arrived when some effort should be made toward stamping out the morally criminal tactics of unscrupulous men. The primary cause of these commercial frauds is, without doubt, the facilities for dishonesty through the lack of proper insolvent laws, which, while affording the unfortunate debtor relief, may in some measure protect the victimized creditor and punish the cheat. The want of such legislation offers a premium for dishonesty, and experience has proven that men devoid of the capacity to succeed in straight business have not been slow to take advantage of it; in fact, the unprincipled trader has a better show, by manipulating his business toward failure, than in struggling along, working on a small margin. He has none of the worry and incessant anxiety and care incidental to the honest dealer, but spends money freely, lives like a prince, and, when the inevitable approaches, turns over en bloc what few assets may remain to his brother or his sister, his cousin or his aunt, or some other confederate, and snapping his fingers at his creditor, says, with Boss Tweed, "What are you going to do about it? Take fifteen cents and let me start on again." The present laws afford the victims no redress, and as the easiest and least expensive way out of the dilemma, the fifteen-cent compromise is accepted, and the fraud at liberty again to duplicate the performance. If the matter ended here it would simply be an affair between debtor and creditor, and call for no observations from third parties, but its injurious influence on the trade demands that some measures be taken to checkmate these malpractices. The creditors, usually comprising paperdealers, ink-makers and machinists, by their supine inertness and easy acquiescence with the first offer made, are culpable, and the question may well be asked, "Is such action just or square to those honest traders who are paying them a hundred cents on the dollar?" The question admits of but one reply, and that a most emphatic "No." Thus the fair dealer is too heavily handicapped to compete with the frauds, who, intending to pay nothing, can turn

out a job away below its cost and realize for themselves a handsome profit. The business in Chicago at the present time is, by means of these fraudulent practices, rotten to the core, and can only be resuscitated to healthy action by an energetic stand by the printers themselves. Many of these compromises are simply outrages on the honorable portion of the trade, for it is their money that has to recoup the creditors for losses caused by assignments, and the most practical and common-sense method of bringing the men who support them to a sense of what is due to their solvent customers, is by boycotting all establishments who encourage the cheats. Unity of action and firmness of purpose will easily accomplish this, and if we mistake not the feeling of the trade, the tide of this sentiment is already beginning to flow toward the establishment of a black list. Let it be prepared, and the trade canvassed for a pledge to avoid dealing with any establishment figuring therein. We predict for such an arrangement an unqualified success, and heartily recommend its adoption by those printers who desire to see the printing business rid of the scabby sheep. Boycott the accessories.

INCONGRUITIES.

THE job compositor of 1884 certainly possesses many I marked advantages over his less favored and pretentious predecessor of twenty-five or thirty years ago. The improvements and appliances of the art now in daily use in every branch of the business, as compared with the period to which we refer, are so marked, so many and so varied, that comparisons seem odious, the changes amounting to a positive revolution. But while this is true, it is questionable, very questionable, if the workman himself has kept pace with the march of improvement, or that a change for the better has been effected in his social, financial or intellectual position, his training, his practical knowledge or his tastes. While here and there one may be found whose superiority is conceded, and whose abilities, mechanical or otherwise, raise him above his fellows, we doubt if the great majority of the craft are as qualified, as a class, as they were before the numerous appliances which now facilitate and lighten their labors were in vogue. When the ornamental fonts, corners and combination borders, brass and metal flourishes, and the innumerable designs which are now found in every well stocked printing establishment, were comparatively unknown embellishments, frequently home-made, the result of care and study, were used to the best advantage, and only in cases when their necessity was apparent. Today the situation is entirely changed. The compositor has everything of this character furnished in endless profusion, and, as a consequence, too often fails to use that judgment and discrimination which the public have a right to expect at his hands. In no manner is this lack of judgment more painfully apparent than in the recklessness with which many of these combinations are maltreated. Designs, unmeaning and offensive to good taste, are scattered promiscuously from a poster to a business card, and as the evil is increasing from day to day, we think the present an opportune time to call attention to the fact.

From a number of samples, collected from time to time, the following will suffice to show the nature of our plaint: Here is the billhead of one who follows the æsthetic calling of a night-scavenger, upon which the compositor has evidently exhausted his skill, embellished with what is supposed to be a songster in his cage; while a circular from a coal-dealer exhibits an oriental eagerly scanning a line, perhaps intended to represent a mummy fishing for a fossilized silurian; but really what connection there is between the subject-matter and the surroundings our readers must judge for themselves.

Here, again, is an illustrated catalogue, published by one of our wholesale boot and shoe manufacturers, containing the latest designs in top-boots, brogans and rubber overalls, suggestive of the aroma of the stockyards; yet in a corner of each page we find a fragrant flower, a pansy, japonica, heliotrope, mignonette, etc. Calling the attention of a printer to this travesty on good taste, he replied, "Oh, you see he (the compositor) wanted something to fill up the gap,"—the question of harmony or good taste evidently never entering the mind of the author of the outrage

or his apologist.

Nor are these incongruities confined to the work of the unpretentious, often appearing in publications intended to illustrate the perfection of typography. In one of thesenow lying before us is a specimen circular, with the heading, "The Fellowship of Jesus Christ. An Hour for Simultaneous Prayer throughout the World," flanked on each side by a sphynx (a centaur would have been as appropriate) and a couple of Egyptian idols, perhaps a labored attempt to establish an identity between the "known" and "unknown God." A contemporary writer of Nero's court states that it was easier to find a god in Athens than a man, but it appears to have been easier for this designer to find four heathen symbols than one in harmony with the teachings of Christianity. Now what would be thought of an artist producing a picture representing "Nature in Repose" with a sirocco in the background, or a revivalist closing services with a chorus by a minstrel troupe? Yet neither of these inconsistencies would be more out of character with the nature of the subjects than some of the designs to which we have taken exception.

Again: these incongruities are not so much the result of a lack of mechanical skill as a lack of knowledge. Intelligence pays. Knowledge is power, and intelligence and skill should go hand in hand, the one being the helpmeet of the other. These can only be acquired by patient study and reflection. The mind as well as the taste requires cultivation. Superficial knowledge cannot successfully cope with educated skill. The printer who "cares for none of these things,"- will undoubtedly be outstripped in the race by the student who spends his leisure hours in improving his mind, acquiring practical knowledge and mastering details. Show us a workman whose ambition is bounded by the walls of the printing-office, who can tell the latest joke (?) in Peck's Sun, or the details of the latest crime, but who has no time or inclination to peruse his trade's journal, and we will show you a man who has mistaken his vocation, who, in all probability, will remain, as he deserves to remain, "a hewer of wood and drawer

of water." Cause and effect go together. Nor should the ignorance existing be a matter of surprise. In many instances a boy who has been rushed through school at a breakneck speed, and who has obtained a smattering on this or that subject only sufficient to prove that a "little learning is a dangerous thing," is thrust into a printingoffice, without desire or qualification, where he is too frequently allowed to think and act for himself, or placed under the tutelage of one whose knowledge is as limited as his own. When devices are attempted in which discrimination is required, he seldom if ever succeeds, because his knowledge is not based on intelligence. He stumbles along as best he can, mixing the sublime and ridiculous in a manner to be despised. All are fish that come into his net, and at length when he becomes a full-fledged journeyman, he joins the grand army of those who think "that gap should be filled up with something," regardless of its nature.

It is in this connection that a school of technique becomes a public benefactor, because under its fostering care no such incongruous productions as those to which we have referred would be allowed to see the light of day. The efforts of the apprentice would be intelligently directed; the why and wherefore pointed out; the absurdity of this or that combination, which now passes unchallenged, explained, and the graduate be enabled to "give a reason for the faith that is in him."

AN EMPLOYER'S ENDORSEMENT.

A FTER the issue of our February number we received a hint from an esteemed subscriber in New York that we were occupying too much valuable space in publishing the opinions of others on the merits of The Inland Printer. Conceding the value of this opinion, we withdrew the pages which flattered our vanity and delighted the human portion of our soul, fearful lest we might be regarded as self-boastful. We have, however, received a communication from a gentleman of such eminence in the trade, and who is known to be ever ready to support any worthy craft institution, that our modesty is not sufficiently matured to suppress its publication. With this apology for departing from our programme, we insert the letter in extense:

CHICAGO, March 20, 1884.

Jos. Peake, Secretary Inland Printer Company:

Please continue THE INLAND PRINTER to my address. It is a credit to its publishers and the craft which it represents, and I hope you will be able to maintain it in its present style as to matter, composition, paper and presswork. I inclose two dollars.

Very truly yours,

WM. H. RAND.

A SLOVENLY PRACTICE.

THE slovenly habit of making the quad-box the depository for bad or broken letters, etc., in fact a veritable hell-box, is one of the most reprehensible in which the compositor can indulge. Pi resembles geometrical progression—it increases at an astounding ratio. There is no reason why the quad-box should not be kept as clean as any other box in the case—and a little care will do so—instead of being turned into a miniature printing-office, as it too often is. We know of no better evidence of a slovenly printer than a pied quad-box, and yet there are many

men, who would feel insulted were they ranked as other than first-class compositors, who never think of cleaning it out from one month's end to another. But especially is this practice to be deprecated in the job office, because what is supposed to be everybody's business is nobody's business, and, as a consequence, it is here where this pernicious habit runs riot. It is generally just as convenient, and in the long run far more profitable, to put a stray letter at once in the proper case, than to throw it where it has no business - into the quad, hyphen, or colon box. There is an old saying, "If you want to keep the floor clean, when you drop one letter, pick up two." So it is the first wrong move that does the mischief; it is like the bellwether of a flock - others follow its lead. Keep out the first wrong-font letter or space, and the second will never get in. Perhaps the safest plan is to keep the space and quad boxes of the job cases empty, justifying from the sort cases entirely. It is also a good plan for a compositor to place a hell-box on or near his stand, and have the contents of the same emptied on the dead-stone every morning. By adopting this method, all excuses for dirty quad-boxes and the accumulation of pi will be effectually removed, and the culprit or culprits who make a practice of throwing every word or line pied into them will soon be detected.

CO-OPERATIVE INDUSTRIES.

The London News has a correspondent visiting the great centers of English industry, and he has recently been at Oldham, a city of 120,000 inhabitants, near Manchester, noted for the extent to which cooperation has been introduced into cotton spinning. It may modify the conceit of some of our people who imagine that America has gone far ahead of anything attempted in the Old World in the improvement of the condition of the laboring classes, to learn a little about this city of Oldham, whose system of mills is, we may say, no longer an experiment, having survived successfully the severe depression of a few years ago. This system is, in short, simply the formation of joint-stock corporations by the laboring classes. The mills are managed by corporations, like those of Lowell, but the stockholders, instead of being wealthy capitalists, are the operators themselves. The London News correspondent says:

There are at present in Oldham some seventy-five joint-stock spinning-mills, with an aggregate share and loan capital of £5,000,000, which, added to the amount invested in cooperative stores, building societies, and other similar organizations, make a total of £8,500,000. I have the authority of the president of one of the cooperative societies, who is also secretary to a large spinning company, for saying that three-fourths of this amount is held by the working people of Oldham and the neighborhood. It by no means follows from this that the operatives are pecuniarily interested in the mills in which they work, or that three-fourths of them are shareholders or depositors. The majority are women and minors, and a man may, and often does, in fact, work in one mill and hold shares in another. Those who buy shares and lend money are naturally the thrifty, and the thrifty everywhere are in a minority. On the other hand, the industrial society, one of the most flourishing of the sort in town, numbers twenty thousand members, all belonging to the working classes. This society has expended during the last few years, £55,000 in building houses for its members, and is still building. Hundreds of factory operatives are living in their own cottages, and there are at least one thousand men in Oldham, now working for weekly wages, who are worth from £1,000 to £2,000. The sales of the Industrial and Equitable societies are at the rate of £608,000 a year over the counter. They return to the members a discount of nearly fifteen per cent on amount of their purchases, set aside £2,000 a year for educational purposes, and subscribe liberally to local charities. Economy is promoted by enabling families to purchase their supplies at wholesale prices, and thrift encouraged by offering facilities to workmen for investing their savings at good interest. Those who are not afraid of running a little risk, buy shares; those who prefer a steady, but relatively low rate of interest, place their money on deposit at four or four and a half per cent, for all the joint-stock mills accept loans, at call or otherwise, and a considerable proportion of the £5,000,000 is in this shape.

The mills averaged eight and a quarter per cent dividends in 1882, and about seven per cent in 1883, some paying as high as fifteen or twenty and some nothing, varying with the skill of the management. Profits are divided annually. Each quarter's statement of the business gives the attendance of directors, and those who neglect their duties are dropped. There is a great enterprise in adopting new machinery and keeping up with the times. The spinning mule has been enlarged within a few years to carry thirteen hundred spindles, instead of eight hundred, and the speed has been raised from three draws to four or five draws a minute. New mills have been built of greater size, to accommodate these large machines, and the cost of building and equipment has been reduced from thirty shillings to twenty shillings per spindle; one hundred thousand new spindles will be run this year, but a cable dispatch says that the association of the mills has taken measures to limit production and prevent a glut. So, in their business methods, everything is cut down to a fine point. The Liverpool cotton brokers charged one-half of one per cent commission, and refused to reduce; the Oldham men promptly formed an association to conduct their own buying.

It is scarcely necessary to say that an American spirit of equality pervades the town. "At the King's Arms you may see, almost any evening, the mayor of the town, a county magistrate, or other notability, and a self-actor, minder or foreman, from 'Platt's' (the large machine-making establishment), sitting at the same table, thee-ing and thou-ing each other, and discussing the state of trade and the affairs of the town." One of the big mills has two powerful horizontal engines, coupled together and working high and low pressure. One has engraved on a big plate the name "Labor" and the other "Capital," and so well is this relationship understood, that disputes about wages are adjusted there by a kind of arbitration, and without difficulty. Wages are high, and laborers go to and fro daily by rail from places ten miles away.

With such cities increasing rapidly in capacity of production, is it any wonder that Great Britain, in 1880, the last year for which we have the figures, exported cotton piece-goods to the amount of forty-four hundred and ninety-five million yards, and two hundred and fifteen million pounds of yarns,—the value of both staples being four hundred and twenty-five million dollars, or about fifty times as much as the exports of cotton manufactures from the United States for the same year? Yet the United States senate is higgling over the question whether we shall venture to contest the British supremacy in our neighboring republic of Mexico. The social and industrial conditions reached at Oldham ought to be a matter of envy and serious study by the leaders of industry in some of our American cities, where the laboring class have no share in the ownership of the mills, and are in constant quarrel with employers.—The Springfield Republican.

NEWSPAPER COPYRIGHT.

Following is the copy of a bill introduced by Senator Sherman, March 4, granting copyright to newspapers:

Be it enacted, etc., That any daily or weekly newspaper, or any association of daily or weekly newspapers, published in the United States, or any of the territories thereof, shall have the sole right to print, issue and sell, for the term of eight hours, dating from the hour of going to press, the contents of said daily or weekly newspapers or the collected news of said newspaper association exceeding one hundred words.

SEC. 2. That for any infringement of the copyright granted by the first section of this act the party injured may sue in any court of competent jurisdiction, and recover in any proper action the damages sustained by him from the person making the infringement, together with costs of suit.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(While our columns are always open for the discussion of any relevant subject, we do not necessarily indorse the opinions of contributors. Anonymous letters will not be noticed; therefore our correspondents will please give names—not for publication, if they desire to remain incog., but as a guarantee of good faith.)

To the Editor: INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 20, 1884.

In the March number of the PRINTER, a correspondent, under the head of "A New Wrinkle," gives his experience with pad making, which is open to a grave objection, that is, the glue is liable to crack and break off when dry. This can, however, be remedied by adding a small quantity of molasses to the glue. I never tried red ink, but aniline red makes a splendid color for the purpose.

Yours

F. A. L.

To the Editor: INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 26, 1884.

Mr. McNamara's article in the January number of the PRINTER states the position and responsibilities of the pressman about as near as it could possibly be done. Would that every proprietor could be made to read the same; then, perhaps, they would give their much-abused pressmen proper material, and allow them facilities to do artistic work in an artistic manner, and not bring in an illustrated catalogue, with the order "to be done by four o'clock, the man is going out on the train," when the pressman ought to have from six to ten hours to make ready, saying nothing about running from five to ten thousand impressions. I hope we shall hear from brother McNamara often, through the columns of the PRINTER. Yours,

ONE OF THE MUCH-ABUSED PRESSMEN.

A "BETTER" WRINKLE.

To the Editor :

WELLSBORO, Pa., March 12, 1884.

In the last number of THE INLAND PRINTER, Mr. William Meyer, Jr., tells the country printers how to make the red-edged pads by using glue colored with red ink.

I tried his method some time ago, but my customers found fault with the pads because the glue became hard and brittle, and the pads would break apart unless handled very carefully, and you know pads are not made to be kept rolled in tissue-paper, but for rough work.

I noticed that some of the pads in market were bound with a pliable substance, like roller composition, and that gave me an idea. I covered the edges of a pile of pads with a composition made in my glue-pot by adding a small quantity of glycerine, making virtually a hard roller gum. When dry they were separated with a knife, and were found to stand the "racket" as well as if bound with paper. The composition may be colored with any of the aniline colors, found at all drug-stores nowadays.

Yours,

A. M. Roy.

THE EVILS OF OVERTIME.

To the Editor: BALTIMORE, March 12, 1884.

I have just read the article on "The Evils of Overtime," in THE INLAND PRINTER for March, and congratulate you on the stand you have taken. I endorse every word you say. Your statements are true from beginning to end. While we read of our fellow craftsmen in Australia enforcing the eight-hour system, a lot of earthworms in our midst - and that's the very name for them - are crowding each other to see who will work the longest number of hours. Shame on them, but you can't shame such creatures. How often have I looked with contempt upon them when word was passed 'round that nightwork was required, to see how many of them would try to put themselves in the foreman's way, as if to say, "Please ask me"? You truthfully say overwork is unprofitable. I know it to be unprofitable, and could give you scores of examples where the price paid for a job done in overtime didn't equal the wages charged. In the case of a railroad time-table or like matter, or the printing of election tickets, where each party puts it off to the last moment, it may be excused, but to make a practice of doing general commercial work in overtime is a bad mistake. I have labored in a great many cities, and have found this evil prevails

to a greater or less extent in all of them, and I know some men who, if your article was written for their especial benefit, could not have been hit squarer. Give us another blast on the same subject; some may feel sore over it, but the good and true men to union principles will say — amen.

AN ENEMY TO OVERTIME.

VALUABLE SUGGESTIONS.

To the Editor :

McGregor, Iowa, March 15, 1884.

Your paper has been received at our office, and is really very *good*, good in every sense. I appreciate many of the hints found in its pages, especially about small things.

I wish to make some little suggestion on rollers, etc., which I have found of benefit in our office.

Old rollers, too hard and dry, can often be renovated and made to do good service by giving them a coat of glycerine after washing. Let stand a day, or as long as the condition of the roller may require, then sponge off and allow to dry to the right suction. I have frequently treated old cast-off rollers in this way, and made them work as good as new.

When setting a job aside, to be used again, instead of tying it with string or cord, stretch a small rubber band around it. This can be done in one-tenth the time, is easier taken off, and is not so risky as tying a page-cord. A rubber band can also be conveniently used for a gripper on a job press instead of a string.

A. F. HOFER, JR.

A QUESTION ANSWERED.

To the Editor:

FORT DODGE, Iowa, March 13, 1884.

In your issue of March I noticed an article headed "A Word with Non Union Men." Admitting that a union is a good thing, still it is not the fault of a great many non-union men that they are such. If it were so arranged that we country printers could join the union without losing so much time, there would be a great many more union men, and good ones too. As it is, if a man is in a country shop it takes a month or more for him to get into the union. If he goes to the city to join, he is not allowed to work in the union offices because he is not a union man, and is then termed a "rat." About three months ago I wrote to the union at Sioux City, but have heard nothing from the secretary as yet. What am I to do to get into it? Go to the city and pay board for a month or more, I expect. This a great many of us cannot do; I know that it is above my means. If there is any way for me to join, I would like to do so, but do not like to strike out unless I belong to the union, as I think it would help a man.

Hoping to hear from you favorably, and at an early date,

I remain yours, F. S. B.

[If our friend will take the trouble to write to Mr. C. W. Cormeny, Council Bluffs, state deputy for Iowa, he will receive all desired information. He is in error, however, in supposing that he would not be allowed to work in a union office pending action on his application to become a member. Provided the applicant has never worked as a journeyman, where a union existed, in a non-union office, a permit is issued, — equivalent to a working card — entitling him to secure employment in any union establishment until action pro or con has been taken on his case. In a future issue we shall have something further to say on this subject.—ED.]

OUR PHILADELPHIA LETTER.

To the Editor:

March 21, 1884.

The last number of the PRINTER came to hand at the proper time, improved in tone, we think, very much, by the stalwart manner in which it takes hold of and argues the Union question. It rather got into my mind that it was trying to straddle this question, and I was sorry to see it. But now I am all right again. Since I last wrote, the weather here has been about as bad as the devil could get it up, and it seems to have had a depressing effect on business, too. Things are very flat just now.

Changes incident to this world have been going on here, as elsewhere. Notably, we notice the promotion of Mr. Alfred Harris to the foremanship of Henry Ashmead's large printing-house on Sansom

street. Mr. Harris brings to his position ability and experience enough, we think, to make himself a success.

Mr. James Hennessey has taken charge of the *Times* printing-house; we believe him to be the man for the place.

Mr. Bernard Nolan has left us, and is now working in your city (Chicago). Another case of Philadelphia's loss and Chicago's gain.

The Philadelphia Pressmen's Union has elected the following officers for the ensuing year: W. J. Adams, president; Charles Gamewell, vice-president; C. W. Miller, recording secretary; C. H. Scout, financial secretary; W. J. Harris, treasurer. Trustees: Charles J. Lynch, Frederick McCarthy, W. J. Adams, William Harrington, William Dewitt. Delegate to International Convention, Charles W. Miller.

Quite a stir was created today by the announcement that Messrs. Grant & Faires, of the firm of Grant, Faires & Rodgers, had retired, Mrs. Rodgers buying their interest on behalf of her son.

The above-mentioned office is one of the largest printing-houses in the city. If young Mr. Rodgers develops the business qualities and principles which characterized his lamented father, the establishment cannot fail to meet with the success which should attend the efforts of those who have an interest in the welfare of not only themselves, but of others

The short notice in the last number of the PRINTER to members of the craft, urging them to write for their paper, has spurred one individual (a responsible one) to send me the accompanying interesting sketch relative to the secretive qualities of printers. More anon.

C. W. M.

ARE SKETCHES AND PROOFS TO BE CHARGED?

PRINTERS must not spoil the public. If a man went to his tailor and asked for a suit of clothes to be made and sent home on the condition that, if not approved, it would be returned, he might naturally expect to be laughed at. There are some people who never pay their tailors, or, for the matter of that, their printers either, but they, of course, don't count. It has been asserted that the custom of the printing trade is, that if a sketch—say of a poster—be made and not approved, it should not be paid for. We assert, on the contrary, that no such custom exists. It will be in the recollection of many of our readers that a person, with a conscience not larger than a bee's knee, once ordered a four-page prospectus to be set up by no less than five different printers, and when four of them wondered why they heard nothing more about the job, and inquired, they were coolly told that the work of the fifth, to whom the order had been given, was preferred. The four printers put their heads together, brought four separate actions for the cost of setting the type and pulling proofs, and were paid just before the case came on for trial, this precious printer's patron discovering, at the last moment, that he was in the wrong box. We have heard of a Silly Printer [observe the capitals] who agreed to set up a job on the chance of pleasing a client, and with the further understanding that unless he succeeded in doing so, and his price was also the lowest, he would get nothing for his pains. But a week or two ago, the secretary of a big London Insurance Company brought a heavy prospectus to Ye Leadenhalle Presse, and asked that it should be set up on a similar understanding,-a request which, to his evident astonishment, was most promptly refused. He said that, from past experience, he knew he would have no difficulty in getting other printers to do the work on these terms. It was evident, however, that he wanted the job done at Ye Leadenhalle Presse, for he eventually agreed that the composition and proofs should be paid for under any circumstances. A heavy order has since followed. A sketch of a four-sheet doubleelephant poster, completely finished in colors, was recently got up in Ye Leadenhalle Presse without any stipulation whatever. A second sketch, which was preferred, was made by another house, and the order was given elsewhere. The cost of the first sketch was within a shilling or two of four pounds, and when the bill for that amount was sent in, great surprise and indignation were expressed, with an intimation that if the charge were persisted in no further business would follow. The reply was that the sketches and proofs are always charged for, and notwithstanding the threat of loss of future business the charge must be met. A cheque followed: future business must take its chance. Paper and Printing Trades Journal.

For The Inland Printer.

TYPES.

Unlike the Hydra, that myth so dread, We're many-bodied without a head; Of paradox just here are traces, Though headless, we have many faces.

We speak all languages alike, Cry down the wrong, uphold the right; United we're a mighty power, But sep'rate, weak as frailest flower.

The "devil" himself's compelled to fly
From the compo's wrath, if he makes a "pi"
Of any matter that's not yet dead,
Which is being made up for the bed.
Just hearken to our sprightly click,
As we're hustl'd together into the stick,
Soon to be locked up in the chase;
Who'd think our master were so base?

Oh! had we tongues, we'd cry with pain, For now we're pounded with mallet and plane, And very soon to press we'll go, Be it Campbell, or Potter, or Babcock, or Hoe.

A million eyes will soon peruse Our faces, in the form of news, As every man our might can feel, So to our craft we're true as steel.

WM. MEYER, JR.

OBITUARY.

WE are pained to announce the death of Mr. Alexander Ferguson Brown, treasurer and general manager of the Campbell Printing Press & Manufacturing Co., which occurred at his home, Mont Claire, N. J., on Saturday, March 15, after a brief illness of one week. Though a young man, being only thirty years of age, Mr. Brown has been connected with the company for a lengthened period, and his talents, business capacity and energy have contributed in no small degree to placing it in the position it now occupies. His many noble qualities of head and heart endeared him to a large circle of acquaintances by whom his loss will be truly deplored. Though suffering great pain, his mind was unclouded, retaining his mental faculties to the last. He leaves a wife and two children, who will receive the sympathy of all who knew him, in their bereavement. Peritonitis was the cause of death.

SPECIAL NOTES.

THE business card of Meyer Bros., 871 Third avenue, New York, to hand, is a tasty production in four colors, chaste in design, and shows good judgment.

The British & Colonial Printer is one our most valued exchanges. Its editorials are marked by strong common sense, and its columns are replete with news of interest to the craft in general.

PRINTERS' HELPS is the title of an eight page pamphlet, issued by the publishers of *The Gazette*, Milford, Mass. It contains a number of valuable receipts, all of which have been tested and found practicable.

WE have also received a copy of Ward's Improved Tables of Comparative Weights of Standard papers manufactured in the United States and Europe. Designed for the use of printers, lithographers and stationers. Third edition. Published by John C. Ward & Company. Price \$1.

WE have received direct from the publisher, Mr. W. John Stonhill, editor of *The British and Colonial Stationer and Printer*, London, England, the "A B C Paper Mill Guide for Great Britain and Europe." It contains an alphabetical list of English, Scotch and Irish papermakers; a classified list of makers of English, Scotch and Irish mills, their titles, names and mill numbers, registered watermarks, etc., and a complete list of European mills and makes. It is a very valuable publication, and contains a fund of useful information.

A PRINTER'S PARODY.

THE PLANER HARD.
Air—"The Ivy Green."

The typefounder's friend is the planer hard,
As he turneth new type into old;
For fine, small type he hath no regard,
As the blows of the mallet are told.
The type must be batter'd, tho' not decay'd,
To pleasure his leveling whim,
And each crumbling chip which blows have made
Is a pleasing sight to him.
Battering without slight regard,
A typefounder's friend is the planer hard.

Fast he batters on, as he levels and thumps,
For a hard, rough face hath he;
How closely he presses, how rudely he jumps,
On a delicate 1 or an e.
And quickly he glideth across the types,
As the i-dots and commas he breaks,
As typo hugs him in tightest of gripes,
And laughs o'er the havoc he makes.
Battering without slight regard,
A typefounder's friend is the planer hard.

Whole pages are bruis'd, and the types decrease,
And founts are thus ruin'd—who knows?
But the brave old planer shall never cease
From his hard and heavy blows.
The worn-out tool, in his cast-off days,
Shall merrily scan the past;
For the hardest metal Printers praise
Is the planer's food at last.
Battering without slight regard,
The typefounder's friend is the planer hard.
—London Press News.

USING WOODCUTS.

In solid matter, justify cuts in the text when it can be done with propriety. If any cut makes a side measure of less than eight ems of text, get a special order from foreman before leading type down the side of the cut.

When the cuts have square or well-defined outlines, leave a margin of about one pica in solid matter, and two picas in leaded matter, on all sides, exclusive of the legend line, or description of the cut. When the cuts are of irregular outline, have the block cut where it has large shoulder, and put the type as near as you can, at uniform distance on all sides.

In a leaded text, do not justify cuts in the matter, unless they are very small. Give them abundance of margin.

When two or more cuts have to be used on a page, put them apart, at equal distances, but in irregular positions.

If you can prevent it, do not allow a cut on one page, to back, in presswork, a cut on the next page.

In a form that has to be electrotyped, put stereotype bearers around the cuts.

LOCAL ITEMS.

E. P. Donnell & Co. are just out with a new catalogue, illustrating the bookbindery-machine specialties in which they deal.

JOHN W. ROWEN, the genial foreman with Mills & Co., Des Moines, Iowa, was in the city, and called to congratulate us on what he termed our splendid *March* number.

We are pleased to announce a change for the better in the condition of L. B. Jameson, of the firm of Jameson & Morse, whose serious illness was announced in the March issue of The Printer.

OUR fellow townsman, Mr. A. C. Sheldon, recently the advertising agent of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, has just

been appointed general passenger agent of the Texas & St. Louis Railroad, with headquarters at St. Louis.

H. McAllaster & Co. have just issued a new illustrated catalogue of their new shape novelties, and birthday and bevel-edge cards; they have in stock a splendid and extensive selection of chromo and lithograph cards suitable for advertising purposes.

Mr. Ed. Irwin, the energetic ex-president of the Union, is seriously ill. His many friends contemplate paying his expenses for a trip to the South as soon as the weather justifies it, in the hope that a change of climate may effect a change for the better. No man has worked harder or more unselfishly for the interests of the Chicago Union than Mr. Irwin, and the progress of the bronchial ailment affecting him will be watched with the greatest solicitude.

THE SUCCESSOR FINED FOR CONTEMPT.—The Herald of March 19 says: Judge Tuley issued an order in the case of M. Lilenthal vs. Culver, Page, Hoyne & Co., imposing a fine of fifty dollars each on John Morris and W. C. D. Grannis, for contempt of court. These two gentlemen were summoned to answer as garnishees, and both refused to make any reply to the interrogatories put to them concerning their share in the well-known transformation scene whereby the defendant corporation was "succeeded" by John Morris.

PRESENTATION.— Mr. Cal. Lewis, who for the past twelve years has been employed in the job department of the J. W. Jones Printing & Stationery Co., was recently presented by his associates with a beautiful intaglio ring, on the occasion of leaving for a new field of labor. The presentation was made by A. C. Cameron, in a few appropriate remarks, who assured the recipient that he carried with him the respect and best wishes of his fellow workmen, who would always be pleased to hear of his success. Mr. Lewis responded in a graceful and felicitous manner.

Our friend Harry Hartt, of H. Hartt & Co., Western agents for the Potter press, informs us that he has sold (among other sales) within the last week or two, three large lithographic presses to the Krebs Lithographic Company, of Cincinnati, one of the same to the Great Western Lithographic Company, St. Louis, and two super-royals, one four-roller and one two-roller printing-presses to the proprietors of the American Engineer, Chicago,—all of the Potter make. This looks like business. If there is any special merit in any particular machine he handles, Harry is the one to make it known.

THE Typographical Union was ably represented in the Illinois State Trade and Labor Convention held in Chicago, commencing March 26. Nearly one hundred and fifty delegates were in attendance. The platform is a plain, practical, common-sense document. Among the measures introduced, of special interest to the craft, were resolutions opposing the pending international copyright bill in congress; in relation to boycotting the New York *Tribune* for its war on Union printers, and an appeal to congress for legislation to suppress the publication and sale of vicious dime-novel literature.

OBITUARY.—Samuel S. Beach, a charter member of Chicago Typographical Union, No. 16, died March 25, of sorosis of the liver. He arrived in Chicago in 1838, being then a boy of twelve years of age, and when it was merely a frontier hamlet. He was a man of excellent business ability, and soon after completing his apprenticeship, went into business for himself, and established the present well known firm of law-brief printers, Beach, Barnard & Co. He was a man of generous impulses, and was widely known and respected by the craft, a numerous body of which attended the last sad rites in his honor on Thursday last. The remains now rest in Oakwood cemetery.

THE election for officers of the Chicago Typographical Union, which takes place Wednesday, April 9, is absorbing the attention of Chicago printers at the present time. No opposition has so far been developed to M. J. Carroll, the present able president. Martin Burke announces himself as an aspirant for vice-president. Samuel Restall, the present incumbent, Wm. De Vere Hunt and E. J. Lafferty are candidates for secretary-treasurer. For recording-secretary, R. L. C. Brown, C. G. Stivers and A. J. Ulrich are running a triangular race. The next convention of the International will be held in New Orleans, in June, and for the honor of representing No. 16 thereat, the follow-

ing gentlemen present their names: Jas. A. Bidwell, Edwin N. Chase, Thos. A. Cook, Will J. Creevy, John Fitzhenry, Jas. O'Hara, C. A. Pearson, Frank S. Pelton, Chas. H. Philbrick, Jay E. Reeves, Wm. F. Russell and John E. Schildhelm. Four delegates will undoubtedly be sent, and as the membership of the union is now considerably more than one thousand, at least eight hundred votes will be polled. May the best men be selected.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

FORTY paper and pulp mills suffered by fire during the past year, with an aggregate loss of \$1,500,000, about three-quarters insured.

THE Minneapolis *Tribune* building, at Minneapolis, Minn., is to be one hundred and forty-eight feet high, and will cost when completed \$400,000.

RULING-INKS can be made to dry quickly by adding half a gill of methylated spirits to every pint of ink. The spirit is partly soaked into the paper and partly evaporates; it also makes the lines firm.

WATERPROOF GLUE.— First, dissolve one pound of best glue in two pints of soft water, then add four ounces of dry whitelead and eight ounces of alcohol, which is shaken and mixed with the glue and used at once.

THE British *Medical Journal* advises that all books used by patients suffering from infectious or contagious diseases be burned after convalescence, and that the second-hand book shops and circulating libraries be occasionally subjected to disinfection.

To prevent set-off on the writing papers printed on one side, do not lay the sheets straight as they leave the press. This will enable the air to get between them and wonderfully expedite the drying of the ink. Do not allow the heap to become too heavy.

To remove ink-stains from the fingers, wash in chloride of lime and then rinse hands in a spoonful of alcohol. The operation should be done quickly, as the lime, of course, eats into the flesh. The alcohol renders the hands smooth again and takes away the disagreeable odor.

To take printers' ink out of silk without damaging the goods: Put the stained parts of the fabric into a quantity of benzine, then use a fine, rather stiff brush, with fresh benzine. Dry and rub bright with warm water and curd soap. The benzine will not injure the fabric or dye.

A NEW invention for producing showcards with silk and satin lettering is the following: Make an impression with any color, but mixed with No. 3 varnish, and dust it over, as in bronzing, with asbestos. This gives the appearance of printing in satin or silk, and has a beautiful effect.

STEREOTYPING.—Stereotyping was first introduced in this country by David and George Bruce, of New York, in 1813, but the process was slow, requiring some days to prepare the plates for the press. The improvements are so great in this department that the plates can now be prepared for the press in fifteen minutes.

ELECTROTYPING.—Electrotyping was invented by Joseph A. Adams, a wood engraver of New York city, in 1841, for electrotyping wood engravings. In 1846 Mr. Daniel Davis, of Boston, first commenced the business as a new branch, and from that day it has been rapidly growing into favor for all classes of work where a fine, clear, sharp impression is required.

A Modern Colossus.—We have received from the Travelers' Insurance Company, of Hartford, a copy of Bartholdi's statue of "Liberty Enlightening the World," to be placed in New York harbor. It is a superb picture, 26×36, and is the only correct copy of that noble gift which next year will raise its flaming torch to more than double the height of Niagara Falls.

STRONG rays of light are day by day eating out more and more of the ink in the original parchment draft of the Declaration of Independence, which is kept in a glass case in the State Department's library. Few of the names are now legible. Near the parchment is the original, on foolscap paper. The ink is as fresh as it was when it dropped from Jefferson's quill. The many erasures and interlineations by Franklin,

John Adams and others are still perfect as to color. The paper is yellow with age and worn through where it has been folded.

THE REASON WHY BELTS SLIP.—A practical mechanic of long experience complains of the manner in which belts are abused. He says that the reason belts slip, in nine cases out of ten, is either that they are too small for the place in which they are used or else they have been damaged by the use of rosin, brown soap, patent compositions containing tar, etc. Any composition containing tar will soon ruin a belt. His advice is to use belts wider than really necessary, and to keep them clean and well oiled with good neatsfoot oil.

FOREIGN.

A NEW printing machine, invented by Mr. A. Carruthers Miller, Edinburgh, a double rotary, built on the web principle, prints simultaneously 30,000 copies per hour.

On the 1st of January, 1884, the London Society of Compositors had a membership of 4,850 members, there being an accession of 260 members during the closing quarter of the year.

FROM the official report on accidents from machinery in France during the past year, it appears that there was not a single accident from printing machinery causing a serious injury to anyone.

THE Paris Morning News, an American journal which started out under such favorable auspices, so far as the workmen were concerned, has become an unfair office and the society men have been called out.

THERE are now in London 401 newspapers, in the Provinces 9,177, in Scotland 161, in Ireland 156, in Wales 80, and in the British Isles 20, the total thus being 2015. The magazines, including the Quarterly Reviews, number 1,260.

THERE are in Greece ninety printing-offices, of which half are located in Athens. The number of existing newspapers and periodicals is given as 135, while the annual literary production is computed at from 500 to 600 books and pamphlets.

THE memorial bust of the late William Spottiswoode, subscribed for by his former employés, and recently placed in a niche above the principal entrance of Her Majesty's printing-office, London, bears the inscription: "A tribute from witnesses of a noble life."

THE town of Norwich, in England, has a newspaper 170 years old—the *Mercury*—which was started, or is supposed to have been started, in 1714. From 1727 the file in the office of the proprietor is complete. Reprints of the issues in 1727 are being made.

THE London Benefit Society of Compositors and Pressmen now numbers nearly two hundred members. During the past ten years it has expended a sum amounting to \$9,500 in sick-pay and \$1,600 in funeral allowance, and the average expenditure has not exceeded ten cents per week.

Two new typographic journals have been started, both being published in the Spanish language. One, a bimonthly, is published by the Typographic Society at Havana, Cuba, under the title of *Boletin Typografico*; and the other, also a bimonthly, is issued at Montevideo, under the title of *El Typografo*.

THE Japanese Embassy in London have furnished some statistics of that country, from which it appears that in 1880 there were 3,313 new books published in Japan, and 2,952 in 1881. In 1880, of the newspapers published in the country 37,683,633 were sold. In 1881 there were twenty-one public libraries, the number of visitors during the year being 897,898.

THE PRINTER (London) says: We heard recently of a London firm which still keeps up one of the good old English customs. On Christmas-eve each married man was presented with an order on a first-class butcher for ten pounds of best beef, single men with an equivalent in cash, and the younger employés received each a money present. One old pressman has received the beef order for forty consecutive years, making a total of 400 pounds.

FROM the last census returns we learn that there are in England and Wales 61,290 letterpress printers, 5,682 lithographers and lithographic printers, 425 copperplate and steelplate printers, 1,269 type-founders and cutters, 20,097 bookbinders, 2,265 artist-engravers, 3,434

authors, editors and journalists, and 2,677 reporters and shorthand writers. In each trade both sexes are represented, the male preponderating, except in the case of the bookbinders. Of the letterpress printers, 59,088 are male and 2,202 female; of the lithographers and lithographic printers, 5,546 are male and 235 female; of the copperplate and steelplate printers, the proportions are 403 male to 12 female; of the typefounders and cutters, 2,237 male to 32 female; and of the bookbinders, 9,505 male to 20,592 female.

OF INTEREST TO THE CRAFT.

THE Bismarck, D. T., Tribune has been declared an unfair office.

THE Christmas number of the London *Graphic* was 560,000 copies, representing 19,600,000 impressions.

PRESSMAN'S Union, No. 1, Washington, D. C., have formed a local assembly in the Knights of Labor.

THREE thousand copies of the Citizen, a journal published at Ilion, N. Y., were printed by electricity, March 13.

THERE are rumors of a new daily to be started in St. Louis, not later than May. Twenty compositors will find employment.

It is stated over sixty females derive a handsome support from the Boston press, mainly as reporters. All wear glasses and carry a pencil-sharpener.

A GOVERNMENT contract for 20,000 reams of printing paper was recently awarded to the Essex Paper Company, of Philadelphia, at 6 I - IO cents per lb,

THE difficulty existing for some time past between the proprietors of the Washington *Post* and the Typographical Union of that city, has been amicably and honorably arranged.

WE learn from an authentic source that serious inroads are being made in the circulation of the New York *Weekly Tribune* by the members of the various labor associations.

BUFFALO Typographical Union, No. 9, was never in as prosperous a condition as now. With the largest membership ever on the roll-book, it has a well-filled treasury and good prospects.

THE American Police Record, an eight-page weekly and monthly journal, has been started in Philadelphia and New York. It is designed to be the official paper of the police and detective forces of the United States.

THE New York *Times* is fitting another of its heavy presses with an independent Westinghouse engine, coupled direct to it and controlled by the pressman. A similar one, in operation for a year, has given great satisfaction.

THERE are 167 lithographing establishments in the United States, the combined capital of which is \$4,501,825. They give employment to 4,322 persons, pay \$2,307,302 in wages, \$2,755,264 for materials, and produce \$6,912,338.

THREE Massachusetts newspapers have recently tried the plan of printing semiweekly editions, and each has abandoned it. The majority of editors in the state assert that a successful semiweekly cannot be published in a country town, though why it cannot, no one seems able to explain.

Answers to a Kenosha Correspondent.—1. Job printers receive \$18 per week; compositors on bookwork, 37 cents per 1,000 ems; compositors on morning and evening newspapers, 37 and 40 cents respectively. This only applies to union offices. In rat offices the rule is, get what you can. 2. The Times has four Bullock presses, each of which is capable of turning out 8,000 perfect copies per hour; the Journal, a six-cylinder rotary, printing 12,000 per hour.

MR. McCann, of the New York *Herald*, who recently challenged Mr. George Arensburg, of the New York *Times*, for a one or ten hours' contest in setting type, for the championship of the United States, on Wednesday, March 11, set up in one hour 87 lines of minion, or 2,088 ems, which showed in proof good spacing. A correspondent claims this feat has never been equaled since Guttenberg

invented the "art preservative." Mr. Arensburg's record is 2,064 ems of minion in one hour.

THE number of newspapers conveyed annually in the domestic mails of this country amounts to 852,180,792. Germany distributes 439,089,900; France, 320,087,636; Great Britain, 140,789,100. The smaller figures of England, France and Germany are in a measure due to the larger number of papers distributed by private agencies in those countries. Then our government gives an immense premium to newspaper proprietors, by charging the same amount for a pound of printed matter as it does for a half-ounce letter.

THE Craftsman, of Washington, D. C., in its issue of March 15, says: "The delegation from the Government printing-office had an interview last week with the printing committee of the house relative to the restoration of the old per diem rate which was reduced some 20 per cent several years ago, and, despite the energetic efforts of some able delegations at each succeeding congress, has so remained. They had a very pleasant conference with the committee, the members of which listened attentively to their views, and seemed well disposed to consider the matter favorably."

A TYPEFOUNDER'S ADVERTISEMENT.

The type of a glazier should be Diamond.

The type of an oyster should be Pearl.

The type of a jeweler should be Agate.

The type of an honest man should be Nonpareil.

The type of a citizen should be Bourgeois.

The type of a schoolmaster should be Primer.

The type of a bull should be English.

The type of freedom should be Columbian.

The type of a maiden should be Paragon.

The type of a mother should be Double Paragon.

The type of a soldier should be Canon,

The type of an author should be Script.

The type of a preacher should be Text.

The type of aristocracy should be Title.

The type of a baby should be Small Caps.

The type of an alderman should be Extended.

The type of a drunkard should be Backslope.

The type of a barber should be Hair Line.

The type of our foundry should be Excelsior.

English Magazine.

FUNNYGRAPHS.

To avoid a miss-take, always marry a widow.

WHY is Q rather impertinent? Because it is always inquisitive.

WHY is the letter D like a sailor? Because it follows the C (sea).

WHY is a selfish friend like the letter P? Because, though the first in pity, he is last in help.

No woman should borrow the husband of another, because it is not good for a man to be a loan.

PROOFREADERS are a very incredulous body of men. They won't take anybody's word for anything; they must have the proofs.

What is the difference between the entrance to a barn and a loafer in a printing-office? One is a barn door and the other is a darn bore.

An old subscriber being handed his paper right from the press, asked why the paper was so damp. The editor said he didn't know, unless it was because there was so much *due* on it.

THE editor of a Western journal says: The great art of running a newspaper is the art of guessing where hell is liable to break loose next, and to have reporters right there to write it up promptly.

"I'M on the press," said John Henry, as he folded his girl in one fond embrace. "Well, that's no reason why you should try to pye the form," she replied, as she rearranged her tumbled collar and pinned up her hair.

THE Casket, which is published in the interest of undertakers, complains of depression in the coffin industry. Overproduction is not the

trouble in this case. What is needed is more consumption. This is encouraging for all the rest of us.

"I'D like to stay here," remarked the office boy, as he approached the editor's desk, "but de job's too heavy for me." "How too heavy?" "Well, I take de copy into de reposing room and dem depositors hit me on de side of de head. Dere's too much brainwork for me. S'long!—Hebrew Standard.

A PAIR of shears, which had long occupied an editorial table, one day observed a cockroach going for the paste-pot, and promptly called out: "How now, you vagrant!" "Who's a vagrant?" "You are, and I warn you to take yourself off!" "See here," said the cockroach, as he came to a sudden halt. "I don't want to crowd anybody off the editorial staff, but I must warn you that while plenty of editors never have any use for shears, no newspaper in this country can be run without cockroaches!"—Detroit Free Press.

Tom Marshall was engaged in the trial of a case in the inteiror of Kentucky, when a decision of the judge struck him as so bad that he rose and said:

"There never was such a ruling as that since Pontius Pilate presided on the trial of Christ."

"I confess, your honor," continued Tom, "that what I said was a little hard on Pontius Pilate, but it is the first time in the history of Kentucky jurisprudence that it is held that to speak disrespectfully of Pontius Pilate is contempt of court."

"Mr. Clerk, make the fine twenty dollars for a continuous contempt," said the judge, solemnly.

"Well, judge," Tom added, "as you won all my money last night at poker, lend me the twenty."

"Mr. Clerk," cried the judge, hastily, "remit the fine. The state can afford to lose the money better than I can."

"I congratulate the court upon its return to a sane condition," said Tom, resuming his seat amid roars of laughter.—The Capital.

THE MATERNAL SHINGLE

When the angry passions gath'ring in my mother's face I see, And she leads me to the bedroom—gently lays me on her knee— Then I know that I will catch it, and my flesh in fancy itches As I listen to the patter of the shingle on my breeches.

Every tinkle of the shingle has an echo and a sting,
And a thousand burning fancies into active being spring,
And a thousand bees and hornets 'neath my coat-tail seem to swarm
As I listen to the patter of the shingle, oh, so warm!

In a splutter comes my father—whom I supposed had gone— To survey the situation, and tell her to lay it on; To see her bending o'er me as I listen to the strain Played by her and by the shingle, in a wild and weird refrain.

In a sudden intermission, which appears my only chance, I say: "Strike gently, mother, or you'll split my Sunday pants." She stops a moment, draws her breath, the shingle holds aloft, And says: "I had not thought of that—my son, just take them off."

Holy Moses! and the angels, cast thy pitying glances down, And thou, oh! family doctor, put a good soft poultice on; And may I with fools and dunces everlastingly commingle, If I e'er say another word when my mother wields the shingle.

Fifty cents will pay for an advertisement of three lines in this Department, Each additional line ten cents. Twelve words make a line. No manufacturer's or dealer's advertisement will be admitted here, this being intended for the accommodation of our subscribers.

POR SALE—A Democratic newspaper and job office, in one of the best Democratic towns and counties in one of the oldest Western States; official organ of the party and county, and the largest paper with the largest circulation in the county. Old presses recently exchanged for new ones, and everything about the office in tip-top order. For full particulars as to the best bargain to be had anywhere in a county newspaper and job office, address "DEMO," care INLAND PRINTER, Chicago, Ill.

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Highest prices paid for Printers' Cuttings.

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Manufacturers Superior Copper-Mixed Type.

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80 a 16 A \$9 75

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Dear Dirs=

Chicago, Il., april 18, 1884.

The very best veidence of the high esteem in which our Juperior Copper-Mixed Type is held by the trading printers and publishers in the West is furnished by the municous orders use are receiving from them. Within the last fees months use have supplied the Chicago Tribune, Chicago Times, Chicago Daily News, It. Daul Globe, Kansas City Jamal, Minneapolis Tribune, Minneapolis Jamal, Western Newspaper Union, and a number of weekly journals throughout the country with handsome must dresses. We have no hesitation in sonjing that our Juperior Copper-Mixed Type stands without a successful rised in this country to-day in versing qualities, and it has only to be used to substantiate the assertion. We are receiving municous testimonials from our potrons bearing out the above statement. Don't neater your money on poor material when the best in the market can be had at bottom prices.

Respectfully yours.

Barnhart Bros. & Spindler.

60 a 12 A \$10 00

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30 a 6 A \$5 25

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Suspectfully yours.

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25 a 10 A

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Vessels Plying on The Northern Rivers Frequently Pass Through Uninjured
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14 a 6 A

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~GODS IN AWFUL GONGLAVE MET >

Jove Himself Held the Gavel and Galled the Meeting to Order

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Graceful And Delicate Gologing Preserves The Effect

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PINCH CLEAN BABIES

LAMENTATION OF THE ESTHETICS
59 FATHER IS BALD NOW 74

SNOW AND RAIN
BABCOCK PRINTING PRESS
89 SONGS OF LARKS 76

12 A

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SUPERIOR COPPER-MIXED TYPE METAL
35 HARDBANK FOR BASHFUL 62

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6

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1 32x46 Potter, rack and screw distribution		1 5x9 Nonpariel	75
1 22x28 Campbell, complete press, 6-roller		1 8x12 Imperial Rotary	100
1 31x46 Cottrell & Babcock, wire springs		1 14x18 Nonpareil.	225
1 33x49 Campbell, 2-revol.		1 17x24 Nonpareil Combination Job and News Press	375
1 34x52 Cottrell, 2-roller, Drum Cylinder		1 15x19 Nonpareil, steam and crank	250
1 34x52 Potter, first-class tape delivery and well fountain		1 15x24 Nonpareil, crank and steam.	350
1 32x46 Potter, first-class Cylinder, tape delivery		1 15x19 Nonpareil, crank and steam	225
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1 31x46 Northrup Cylinder, for 8-col. Paper		1 4x8 Ruggles Card and Bill-Head Press	50
1 6-column Northrup Cylinder, good as new	325	1 13x19 Universal, with fountain.	275
1 32½x52 Campbell, complete		1 14x18 Day Jobber.	100
1 35x49 Taylor, 3-revolution, air springs.		1 8x12 Eagle Jobber	
1 37x52 A. B. Taylor Cylinder, air springs.		1 4x6½ Star Lever.	75 15
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1 Gordon Segment Cylinder, will print 1 page of 6-column paper	250	1 7-column Smith Hand-Press	40
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			150
1 10x15 Peerless	225	1 7-column Washington Hand-Press	175
1 171/2 x24 St. Louis Jobber, steam and fountain	300	1 8-column Washington Hand-Press	200
1 10x15 Aldine, with steam and fountain	175	1 9-column Washington Hand-Press	225
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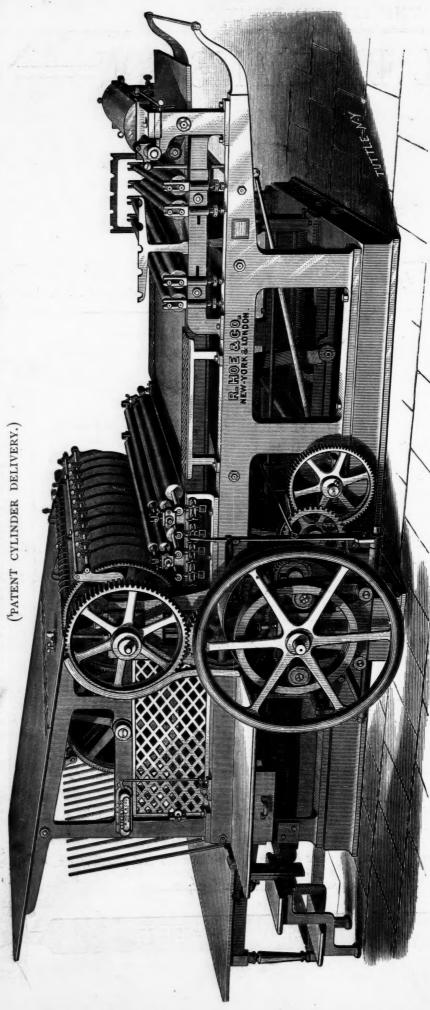
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